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Formats: Citation HTML Full Text

Title: Online sureties.

Source: Business Insurance; 08/07/2000, Vol. 34 Issue 32, p12G, 1/9p

Document Type: Article

Subject(s): INSURANCE, Surety & fidelity

Geographic Term(s): SAN Francisco (Calif.)

CALIFORNIA

Company/Entity: ESURETY.COM (Company)

Abstract: Reports that San Francisco, California-based Internet company eSurety.com has launched a surety

market-related Web site for insurance agents and brokers as of August 7, 2000. Background on the

company's efforts to serve insurance agents and their clients.

Full Text Word Count: 159

ISSN: 0007-6864

Accession Number: 3571783

Persistent link to this record:

http://search.epnet.com/direct.asp?an=3571783&db=bch

Database: Business Source Corporate

Section: A/BT Briefs

ONLINE SURETIES

SAN FRANCISCO - Agents and brokers can now access the surety marketplace via a new Web site launched by San Franciscobased eSurety.com. By visiting the site, www.esurety.com, agents and brokers can procure surety bonds and receive commissions on their sales.

In addition, agency customers can access eSurety.com directly by providing an agent's "referral code" or using a link on an agency's Web site. This allows agents to better service both the occasional bond requirement or the large account, while still receiving commissions and full reporting on all transactions, according to the company.

In a statement, eSurety President Ted Hertz said that the company's goal is "to enable insurance agents and surety insurers to sell products over the internet. We do not compete with agents; we give them tools to be more competitive," he said.

eSurety.com is currently registering agents in California and will begin a national rollout soon.

bch

Source: Business Insurance, 08/07/2000, Vol. 34 Issue 32, p12G, 1p

Item: 3571783

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| Sl | 7556 | SURETY (1W) BOND | |
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                  **USE FORMAT 9 FOR FULL TEXT**
Bonding procedures for North American and international construction
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ABSTRACT: Surety bonding has become essential in today's construction market. The industry is complex, and contractors face high expectations for contract performance. The global construction market and the chance to learn from others justify discussing general bonding procedures and comparing North American and international construction bonding. The main difference is in the type of bonding; the North American construction industry uses an obligatory type rather than the forfeiture type commonly used internationally. Further, there are noticeable differences in bond amounts due to the type of bonding. The procedures used by North American sureties in issuing bonds are more rigid as the surety assumes the entire responsibility of the contract completion whereas bonds are considered an extension of the contractor's line of credit in international contracts. The common law implications, surety requirements, premiums, and other concerns are detailed.

Ruwanpura, Janaka Y; Ariaratnam, Samuel T; Peters, Barry K Engineering Management Journal: EMJ v11n2 PP: 28-34 Jun 1999 ISSN: 1042-9247 JRNL CODE: EGM DOC TYPE: Journal article LANGUAGE: English LENGTH: 7 Pages WORD COUNT: 6131

contracts

ABSTRACT: Surety bonding has become essential in today's construction market. The industry is complex, and contractors face high expectations for contract performance. The global construction market and the chance to learn from others justify discussing general bonding...

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Abstract

Headnote:

Surety bonding has become essential in today's construction market. The industry is complex, and contractors face high expectations for contract **performance**. The global construction market and the chance to learn from others justify discussing general bonding...

... type rather than the forfeiture type commonly used internationally. Further, there are noticeable differences in bond amounts due to the type of bonding. The procedures used by North American sureties in issuing bonds are more rigid as the surety assumes the entire responsibility of the contract completion whereas bonds are considered an extension of the contractor's line of credit in international contracts. The common law implications, surety requirements, premiums, and other concerns are detailed.

Introduction

The construction surety bond has become essential...

... conflict between the owner and the contractor might lead to an unjustifiable call on this type of bond. As a result, contractors usually pay high premiums to secure this type of bonds.

On...

...a contract.

Contractors performing work abroad have often found that foreign owners will not accept surety bonds, in part due to their unfamiliarity. A bank's guarantee of the contractor's performance is more desirable. Unfortunately, most banks are not willing to accept responsibility for job completion...

...solution for international contracts is the letter of credit (LOC) which is an "on-demand" type of bond. However, the LOC permits an owner, who judges the contractor's performance as below expectations, to demand the bond amount from the bank. Since banks, unlike surety companies, are typically unfamiliar with the contractors' operations, it is very unlikely that they are qualified to

assess the project risks. Other limitations for banks or surety companies for contractors working in foreign countries include legal lending limits, unfamiliar construction conditions, different government regulations, and owner's performance expectations.

The main difference between the LOC and surety bonds is that the surety company...of uncompleted work to be done.

The refusal of the insurance company to issue a bond in international contracts is very similar to a surety company in North America declining to provide bonds. In North America, qualifying for a bond is more like obtaining bank credit than purchasing insurance. Like the bank, a surety company wants to know the contractor's situation well before committing its assets (SAA & NASBP, 1992). Thus most contractors find that they must spend a lot of time and effort establishing their first relationship with a surety company. Since the surety is guaranteeing the company's performance, it needs to gather and carefully analyze much information about the firm before it will agree to provide bonds, and it is the usual practice for the surety company to continue monitoring the contractor's progress.

Bond Types

Two common types of bonds are the bid bond and the performance bond. In North America there are...

... will provide the specified final contract bonds regardless of the circumstances (Peters, 1991).

The bid **bond** amount in international contracts varies depending the project's scope. Generally, the bid **bond** amount is not less than 1% of the bid price. Hence, the bid **bond** amount is much less than that of similar North American contracts. Due to this small...

... risk. When a bidder fails to accept the bid price or fails to furnish the performance bond, the total bid bond is forfeited, however, the bid bond may be insufficient for the owner to recover incurred losses. Performance bond. The performance bond protects the owner from financial losses if the contractor fails to perform in accord with contractual terms and conditions. The performance bond is issued only after a bid proposal has been accepted. In U.S. construction contracts, the amount of performance bond varies with the type of owner. The "Miller Act" enacted in 1935 requires performance . bonds for all federal construction projects over US\$25K. All surety companies who can provide bonds are listed in the federal treasury registry. The amount of performance bond is 100% for federal contracts. Fifty states have passed companion legislation dubbed the "Little Miller Act" to protect state funds on construction projects. The amount of performance bond required for state projects is also 100% of the contract price. If are made to the contract, the Acts require that the bond accordingly. be increased There are numerous of performance bonds published by associations, bonding companies, government agencies, and private owners. However, the surety prior to the **performance bond** investigates any contract additions, and may refuse to extend the performance bond.

The performance bond criterion in Canadian contracts is similar

to those in the U.S. with the exception of the face value. CCDC specifies all the requirements and obligations of performance bonds which are 50% of the contract price for both public and private contracts. There are exceptional cases where the owner may require a 100% performance bond. CCDC states that the time limit to file a claim under a performance bond is two years from the date on which final payment under the contract becomes due...

... standard one year warranty period. In Canada, formerly there was a condition printed on the **bond** form that stated any increase over 10% of the contract amount would be considered as...

... the right to decide what constitutes a material change of risk. For example, consider a contractor for a 5-storey apartment building at a cost of \$5M. During construction, the owner decides to add two additional stories for an extra \$2M and then the contractor defaults. The surety would likely use the material change of risk as a defense, however, if the contractor had previously built a similar apartment building in the range of \$7M with bonding from the surety, the courts might rule against granting a material change. As a result, the owner would still only have a bond penalty as originally stated. However, if the \$5M apartment building became a \$5M hospital building...

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USE FORMAT 9 FOR FULL TEXT
Annual survey of fidelity and surety law, 1998--part II

ABSTRACT: A roundup of recent cases covering public and private construction bonds, fidelity and financial institution bonds, and sureties' remedies is presented. in Taylor Construction Inc. v. ABT Service Corp. (1998), the 9th Circuit held that the subcontractor was entitled to collect from the surety amounts due under the subcontract's savings clause. In Am-Haul Carting (1998), a federal district court held that the general contractor's declaration of a subcontractor's default was not prohibited by a stay entered in the subcontractor's bankruptcy proceeding. In Trestle & Tower Engineering Inc. v. Star Insurance Co. (1998), a federal district court held that a claimant was not barred by failure to qualify as a foreign corporation, and its notices were adequate and timely.

Linder, Charles W Jr
Defense Counsel Journal v66n3 PP: 391-410 Jul 1999 ISSN: 0895-0016
JRNL CODE: ISC
DOC TYPE: Journal article LANGUAGE: English LENGTH: 20 Pages
WORD COUNT: 11342

...TEXT: an insured to provide proof of loss within the time limit provided by a fidelity bond of the type involved here justify denial of coverage under the bond without the insurer showing that it...of contract retainage from surety.

In In re John's Insulation Inc.,38 the general contractor on a New York City public construction contract defaulted, and the work was completed by the surety on the performance bond. After

the contractor filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition. it brought suit against the surety, claiming entitlement to the remaining progress payments due under the completed contract.

The bankruptcy court...

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Liability in surety bond claims for extracontractual allegations

ABSTRACT: The issue of extracontractual liability against sureties remains unsettled. Some recent cases impose liability, while other recent cases reject it. It appears that the practitioner should treat a bond claim as one with the potential for extracontractual liability in the same manner the practitioner would treat a claim under an insurance policy. Yet, that same practitioner should be ready to argue before the court that suretyship is different from insurance, and that different rules should apply.

Dykes, Osborne J; Pate, Stephen
Federation of Insurance & Corporate Counsel Quarterly v47n4 PP: 361-384
Summer 1997 ISSN: 0887-0942 JRNL CODE: FIC
DOC TYPE: Journal article LANGUAGE: English LENGTH: 24 Pages
WORD COUNT: 10161

...TEXT: principles.

The importance of the tripartite relationship cannot be ignored. As between the principal and surety, the principal is primarily liable for the underlying obligation while the surety is secondarily liable. To illustrate, a school district (the obligee) may contract with Ace Construction...

... the contract, and perhaps by state statute, Ace Construction must provide the district with a performance bond. Ace, the bond obligor, engages Surety Company, the surety, and a performance bond is issued by the surety in favor of the district, the bond obligee. If the contractor fails to complete the project, the performance bond enables the bond obligee to make a claim on the contractor's bond, with appropriate notice. After payment to the obligee, the surety may seek indemnification from the principal. It is clear that either the principal or the bond obligee may make a claim against the surety under the surety contract if the surety fails to reasonably perform its contractual duties. What is less clear is whether the surety may be liable in tort to any of these parties as a result of the...31 However, the court held that a surety is not liable in tort to a bond obligee on any type of bond where there has been no breach of the underlying contractual obligation by the principal. The...issues that are peculiar to the suretyship context. A. Delay Damages

The area of a surety's liability for delay damages suffered by an

search for 09/694,776Page 7

obligee or a payment **bond** claimant is important because of the propensity for delay in construction contracts. Traditionally, sureties were not liable for delay damages above the amount of the **bond** because to allow such recovery would make it futile to limit the liability of the...

... Assurance Co. v. Larkin General Hospital, Ltd.,74 the Florida Supreme Court found that a performance bond surety was not liable to the obligee for delay damages arising out of the principal's failure to perform because the bond did not specifically cover delay damages. In other words, damages were limited by the contract...

... Iron Works, Inc. v. Fletcher & Sons, Inc.,7 a Pennsylvania court held that the general contractor's payment bond surety was not liable for a subcontractor's costs in storing materials and trailer rentals because such costs were delay damages and not covered by the bond itself or the statute that mandated the bond.

More recent cases have challenged the traditional rule, however. In Republic Insurance Co. v. Prince...

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01157651 98-07046

USE FORMAT 9 FOR FULL TEXT

Surety bonds and guarantees

ABSTRACT: The advantage of arranging a bond from an insurance company rather than a bank is the fact that a bank will set off the amount of the bond against the overall credit facilities that it provides, thus potentially tying up capital that could more usefully be used for something else. The insurance market for bonds is small. Neither are there a great number of brokers who specialize in this business, but those that do will tend to deal with either the more traditional areas of Contract Guarantee, Duty Deferment and Customs related Bonds, or with the travel sector or with Insolvency Bonds. This focus means that a great deal of expertise is built up by both the brokers and the insurers in the particular segment with which they are involved, leading to an entrepreneurial approach that can react fairly quickly to the many developments that have arisen in the bonding markets over recent years.

Salisbury, Nigel
Insurance Brokers Monthly & Insurance Adviser v46nl PP: 22-23+ Jan 1996
ISSN: 0260-2385 JRNL CODE: IBA
DOC TYPE: Journal article LANGUAGE: English LENGTH: 3 Pages
WORD COUNT: 1969

...TEXT: it has become standard practice for many corporate and government bodies to stipulate that a **Performance Bond**, sealed by a reputable **surety**, should be provided as security against default under any contract they award. So a **contractor** tendering for a local authority building contract might be required to provide a **bond** to a value of 10% - 15% of the contract price.

If the contractor then fails...bond can be called upon to provide the funds for reimbursement.

Thus in this particular type of bond, it is not insolvency that is the major trigger, but fraud and dishonesty. All acting...

... broker, therefore, the most important thing is probably to develop a sufficient understanding of the **types** of **bond** most commonly required so as to be able to determine whether any of your existing...

... of British Insurers has produced a leaflet which is designed to explain the need for **Performance** Bonds as well as the benefits to both the **contractor** and employer. They will also be able to provide full details of the insurers represented on the **Surety Bond** Panel.

The ABI can be contacted at 51 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7HQ; telephone 0171...

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00744569 93-93790

USE FORMAT 9 FOR FULL TEXT
A directory of markets for contract surety bonds

ABSTRACT: A directory of markets for contract surety bonds is offered to help obtain bonds for contractor clients. It contains listings, presented in alphabetical order, from surety companies and intermediaries that responded to a recent survey. The listings identify the types of contractors and subcontractors each market will bond. They also identify the types of bonds each market writes, the main ones being: 1. bid bonds, 2. performance bonds, 3. payment bonds, and 4. maintenance bonds. The listings identify those markets that participate in the US Small Business Administration's Surety Bond Guarantee Program. The listings also indicate a market's willingness to bond startup contractors and subcontractors, and they specify any special requirements a surety market has, any special bond feature it offers, and the states in which it does business.

Anonymous

American Agent & Broker v65n7 PP: 34-41 Jul 1993 ISSN: 0002-7200

JRNL CODE: AGB

DOC TYPE: Journal article LANGUAGE: English LENGTH: 6 Pages

WORD COUNT: 2964

ABSTRACT: A directory of markets for contract surety bonds is offered to help obtain bonds for contractor clients. It contains listings, presented in alphabetical order, from surety companies and intermediaries that responded to a recent survey. The listings identify the types of contractors and subcontractors each market will bond. They also identify the types of bonds each market writes, the main ones being: 1. bid bonds, 2. performance bonds, 3. payment bonds, and 4. maintenance bonds. The listings identify those markets that participate in the US Small Business Administration's Surety Bond Guarantee Program. The listings also indicate a market's willingness to bond

startup contractors and subcontractors, and they specify any special requirements a **surety** market has, any special **bond** feature it offers, and the states in which it does business.
...TEXT: a recent survey.

The listings identify the types of contractors and subcontractors each market will **bond**. They also identify the **types** of bonds each market writes, the main ones being:

--Bid bonds, which guarantee that a...mechanical, electrical.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Qualified to perform the work and finance the contract needing a **bond**.

TYPES OF BONDS OFFERED: Bid, performance, payment. SBA-guaranteed bonds available.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Must be limited...